

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8500

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, OECD, EEC, BE

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON OECD DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT
AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

REF STATE 287167

1. EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED EC COORDINATION QUESTION AGAIN
WITH RESPONSIBLE BELGIAN OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
AND MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. THEY STATE THAT
REPRODUCTION OF THE GUIDELINES IN BOTH FRENCH AND DUTCH
IS NEARLY COMPLETED AND THAT FULL DISSEMINATION AS
DESCRIBED BRUSSELS 11163 WILL TAKE PLACE SHORTLY. THEY ARE
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FURTHER AGREED THAT NO REPEAT NO FORMAL EC COMMISSION ACTION

IS ENVISAGED TO INSURE JOINT IMPLEMENTATION. THIS SEEMS TO AGREE WITH THE EC COMMISSION'S VIEW AS REPORTED TO US BY USEC, I.E., THAT THE EC IS CONSIDERING THE GENERAL ISSUE OF MNC BEHAVIOR IN FRAGMENTED, LOW-PRIORITY FASHION, AND THAT IT IS NOT ADDRESSING ITSELF TO THE OECD DECLARATION WHICH IT REGARDS AS THE BUSINESS OF THE MEMBER STATES.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, ONE IMPORTANT OFFICIAL IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS MABILLE) CONTINUES TO EXPECT THAT EVENTUALLY THERE WILL BE INFORMAL INTRA-EC COORDINATION ON THE GUIDELINES DIRECTLY BETWEEN MEMBER STATES. WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO DEVELOP MORE INFORMATION ON THIS POINT. WE DO NOT IN ANY CASE BELIEVE THAT BELGIUM IS SEEKING A PRETEXT TO DELAY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINES. THERE APPEARS TO BE SOME CONCERN HERE, HOWEVER, THAT ALL EC STATES INTERPRET THEM TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE SAME TERMS, SO THAT THEY REMAIN A NEUTRAL FACTOR IN INTRA-COMMUNITY COMPETITION FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT. FIRESTONE

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